

REMARKS

Claims 17-35 are in this application.

Initially, an amendment is made to the specification inserting a priority claim under 35 U.S.C. 120 to U.S. Serial Number 09/190,396 filed Nov. 11, 1998 (abandoned July 26, 2002), of which the present application is a continuation-in-part. Note that that present application was filed July 7, 2000 and was therefore copending for a time with USSN 09/190,396. It is further noted that the present application and USSN 09/190,396 share a common inventor, namely, Paul Szucs.

A newly executed Declaration that includes the above-mentioned claim of priority will be filed in due course. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the claim of priority to USSN 09/190,396, of which the present application is a continuation-in-part, be granted, and that a corrected filing receipt be issued to make note of such additional priority claim. To the extent that a Petition is required, this paper may serve as such, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required petition fee to Deposit Account 50-0320.

In the present Office Action, claims 17-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Paul Szucs et al. (EP 0 917 355 A1) in view of Yasuda et al (USP 5,949,792).

The Examiner at page 3 of the Office Action acknowledges that Yasuda "does not disclose that the separate and independent reproducing devices are located in a home network...[and] does not teach interface for application in the home network" The Examiner relies on Szucs in an attempt to make up for such deficiencies. However, Applicants submit that Szucs is not available as prior art against the present application. That is, Szucs is merely the European Application corresponding to the above-mentioned USSN 09/190,396 and serving as a priority document thereof. However, as noted above, the present application is a continuation-in-part of USSN 09/190,396 and claims priority thereof. Accordingly, Szucs is not available as

prior art against the present application. As such, without Szucs, it is respectfully requested that the 103 rejection be withdrawn.

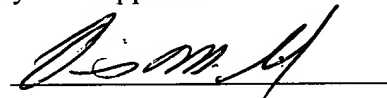
It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early notice to this effect is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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